

Appl. No. 09/912,525
Amdt. Dated February 7, 2005
Reply to Office action of November 8, 2004
Attorney Docket No. P129B4-US1
EUS/J/P/05-3026

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claim Amendments

The Applicant has amended claims 1-9 and 11-16; claim 10 has been canceled and claim 17 has been added. Applicant respectfully submits no new matter has been added. Accordingly, claims 1-9 and 11-17 are pending in the application. Favorable reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a)

Claims 1-9 and 11-16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wall et al. (US 6,223,289 hereinafter Wall) in view of Brezak, Jr., et al. (US 6,427,209 hereinafter Brezak). The Applicant has amended claims 1-9 and 11-16 to better define the intended scope of the claimed invention. The Examiner's consideration of the amended claims is respectfully requested.

The Wall Reference appears to disclose a system and method that provides session and authentication management for a connected terminal. The session and authentication is managed by two entities. During login, an authentication manager validates the user (Col. 6, lines 20-25). When the user is authenticated, the user is given access to a session (Col. 6, line 67-Col. 7, lines 2-15).

The Brezak reference appears to disclose a system that combines logon and user authentication processes to improve success rate and speed of the logon process. Brezak discloses the computer initiating an authentication process when a user attempts to logon to a computer. In the authentication process a network access control obtains the user's account data and includes the account data in a response sent to the computer. The computer retrieves the user account data and uses this data to complete the logon. (Summary)

1. (Currently Amended) A method of establishing a connection between a first and second terminal in a network via a server, wherein the terminals are in non-permanent connection to the server, the method comprising the steps of:

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simultaneously initiating a connection between the first terminal and the server and initiating an authentication process between the first terminal and the server;

completing the connection to the second terminal during the authentication process; and

terminating the connection between the first and second terminal if the authentication fails. (emphasis added)

The Applicant respectfully asserts that the emphasized limitations are not taught or suggested in the Wall or Brezak references.

The Applicant's invention discloses a method and system for improving the speed of connection between terminals that are connected to a network (mobile phone or computer). The authentication process and the connection process are initiated at the same time. The connection process includes a first terminal sending the address/phone number of a second terminal to a server coupled to the network. At the same time the terminal initiates an authentication of the first terminal with the server/network. Even if the authentication process is not complete, the server connects the first terminal and the second terminal. If the authentication fails, the first terminal is disconnected. There are various ways that may cause the terminal to be disconnected, including previous authentication failures.

The contrast between Brezak and the present invention is that the user's authentication data is retrieved by a network access control and sent to a server, which uses the data to complete the user logon. The present invention discloses the server connecting the first terminal with the second terminal while at the same time authenticating the user and instead of preventing the logon of the user, as in Brezak, the invention disconnects the user/terminal if the logon is not successful. Wall on the other hand, authenticates during login, but only when the authentication manager notifies the session manager that the authentication is successful is the user able to connect to a service (Col. 6, line 67-Col. 7, line 1). The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1.

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Amended claims 11, 12 and 13 contain limitations analogous to the limitations found in amended independent claim 1. Also, dependent claims 2-9 and 14-17 all contain the limitations found in their respective independent claims. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of these claims.

Claim 10 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wall in view of Brezak and further in view of Bodnar (US 6,061,790). In order to expedite allowance of this application, the Applicant has canceled claim 10 without prejudice. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant believes all of the claims currently pending in the Application to be in a condition for allowance. The Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests that the Examiner withdraw all rejections and issue a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

The Applicant requests a telephonic interview if the Examiner has any questions or requires any additional information that would further or expedite the prosecution of the Application.

Respectfully submitted,



By Sidney L. Weatherford
Registration No. 45,602

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Ericsson Inc.
6300 Legacy Drive, M/S EVR 1-C-11
Plano, Texas 75024
(972) 583-8656
sidney.weatherford@ericsson.com